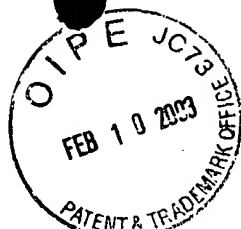


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PATENT APPLICATION

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2/13/03
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIDEO KATO

Application No.: 09/910,928

Filed: July 24, 2001

For: OPTICAL, ADDITIONAL
FILMS AND OPTICAL
ELEMENTS

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Examiner: T Dicus

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Group Art Unit: 1774

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February 7, 2003

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FEB 12 2003
TC 1700

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 8, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-5 and 10-16 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 17-23 as follows. A marked-up copy of the claims is attached.

17. (Amended) An optical element having a film on its surface, said film comprising at least one layer of silica containing fluorine, wherein a concentration of the fluorine in the layer or layers of silica is not less than 0.1 mol% nor more than 10 mol%.

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